

*International Workshop*

**Impact of Poverty and Social Exclusion on Children's Lives  
and their Well-being**

8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008 (til noon), Bratislava, Slovakia

Hosted by the Institute for Labour and Family Research, Bratislava

Funded by Childwatch International Research Network

**Abstract**

**Combating child poverty and social exclusion in the EU and  
promoting the well-being of children**

*Patricia Hoyos, EUROCHILD Aisbl, Belgium*

From the presentation, attendees will gain a better understanding of:

- The profile of child poverty in the EU
- The EU social inclusion policy context
- How Eurochild contributes to the child poverty agenda

There are 97.5 million children aged 0-17 in the EU-27 Member States, representing 20% of the total population<sup>1</sup>. This is 10 million less than in 1995, when they still constituted 22% of the total population. The percentage is expected to decrease further to 15% in 2050, as a result of the ageing of European societies. Yet, despite decreasing numbers of children, 19% of the child population (19 million children) still lived below the poverty threshold in the EU<sup>2</sup>, compared to 16% of the EU population in general. The consequences for children of growing up in poverty and disadvantage are far reaching, affecting the quality of their childhood and their prospects for the future. The presentation will develop this in the evolving context of child well-being, drawing on relevant research and EU data and setting it in the EU social inclusion policy context. Particular emphasis will be placed on the National Action Plans for Social Inclusion and their potential to prevent the intergenerational inheritance of poverty and disadvantage through early intervention strategies. It will conclude with a resume of Eurochild's contribution to this agenda, highlighting key messages from past and current advocacy activities and making the critical connection between child poverty, social exclusion and the ability to exercise rights.

**Contact:**

Patricia Hoyos, Policy Officer, EUROCHILD Aisbl, Belgium

Email: [Policy@Eurochild.org](mailto:Policy@Eurochild.org)

Web: [www.eurochild.org](http://www.eurochild.org)

---

<sup>1</sup> In 2005

<sup>2</sup> Ibidem